



The

Chronicle

Volume 20 Issue 23

Monday, March 4, 2002

Stimulants hurt more
than help the body
and mind.
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Frank Sprinkle says his
farewell to the winter
Olympic games.
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"Queen of the Damned"
fails to scare or please
viewers.
Entertainment, Page 6



ROTC has 3 PUC Students

JOCELYN GALLEGOS
News Editor

John Martin, Jason Androff and Aaron Grey all have one thing in common. They are the only PUC students who attend Indiana University Northwest, located in Gary, to participate in the Army ROTC.

Martin, 19, a freshmen majoring in world history, said he enrolled in the Army ROTC because he hopes to become a commissioned officer in the Army. His family has had the greatest impact on why he wants to be in the Army.

"We've had a line of men on my father's side that have gone into the army. My father was in the army; he fought in Vietnam."

Martin said attending Fork Union Military Academy, located in Central Virginia, also influenced his decision to join the Army.

"I knew I had to fulfill a personal challenge by going through an intense, disciplined lifestyle found in a military-type structure."

Martin, a resident of Hammond, is a native of Northern Virginia and came to PUC in Fall 2001. He came to PUC "to save money" because "other university's are more expensive."

He plans to transfer to Purdue West Lafayette after his sophomore year because he is interested in its Army ROTC program.

A typical day in Martin's life starts at 5 a.m. and ends around 6 p.m. He drives to IUN to attend physical training sessions



Army ROTC cadets are evaluated at the field leadership reconnaissance course.

three times a week and takes an Army ROTC course once a week. On Mondays and Wednesdays he attends classes at PUC.

On his spare time, Martin spends a lot of time at the Total Fitness Center lifting weights to stay in shape.

Jason Androff, 24, a sophomore majoring in systems analysis and design, said the main reason why he joined the Army ROTC was because of the financial benefits.

"Well, I always liked G.I. Joe as a kid. But I think I really wanted to go into the army because of the college benefits."

Androff, a resident of St. John, plans to become an officer

in the Army reserve as opposed to an officer in the army. This will enable him to pursue his career.

He said he would be upset if he would be summoned from the reserve when he is pursuing his career.

"I'm not afraid, but I wouldn't be too happy about that because I am not enthusiastic about going to war."

A typical day in Androff's life starts at 8 a.m. He takes four classes at PUC and attends an ROTC course on Thursdays. He attends physical training three times a week.

Martin and Androff both talked about their experience in the Army ROTC course.

Martin said, "My favorite lab is water survival training. Overall, it has been the most fun hands-on experience for me."

See ROTC, Page 5

Outstanding teacher awards for PUC faculty announced

CYNTHIA SAN MIGUEL
News Writer

Seven professors have been nominated for the Outstanding Teacher Award this year.

The outstanding teacher award recognizes inspirational professors.

Anyone can nominate a teacher.

Wes Lukoshus, director of university relations said, "Our

faculty members indicated that the award is very meaningful because they have been nomi-

nated by alumni, students, and community-individuals that have great respect for their work."

The nominees this year are Gisele M. Casanova, professor of Psychology; Lisa Goodnight, associate professor of commu-

nication; Lisa Hopp, associate professor of nursing; John Lucas, assistant professor of management; Arlene Russell, associate profes-

sor of French; Alan Spector, professor of Sociology; and Michael O'Toole, assistant pro-

fessor of organizational leadership and supervision.

Nominees are asked to submit more information about themselves. A committee reviews the information submitted, background information and teacher evaluations students fill out at the end of each semester. The committee finishes reviewing the information before the end of the spring semester. The winner(s) are kept confidential until the fall.

A monetary award is given. The amount of this award varies. Monetary awards are donated.

Many faculty members who

See Awards, Page 5

PUC is open to Army program

JOCELYN GALLEGOS
News Editor

PUC is willing to explore the possibility of offering a military science program that would include the Army ROTC, but finding space is a challenge.

Jal J. Mistri, assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs, was unable to say whether or not PUC would create a military science program or offer Army training courses, but he said, "If there is enough interest and students involved we could at least look into it."

In order to initiate something like this, students would have to inform the Army, and Army officials would have to approach the chancellor or vice chancellor of academic affairs.

Mistri said finding office and classroom space is more of a challenge than acquiring money to fund the program at this time.

"We are very tight on space."

Last semester, Mistri received a call from an Army ROTC official who told him it would be more convenient for PUC students who attend the program at Indiana University Northwest to take the training courses at PUC. Mistri requested those students' information, but he never received it.

"I assumed, maybe, they changed their minds," Mistri said.

John Martin, PUC student

currently in the Army ROTC at IUN, said he could save gas and travel time if PUC offered a military science program. He also

thinks more PUC students would enroll in the Army ROTC.

"Here we would be able to identify with each other because we would have our own group; I wouldn't feel like such a foreigner in a strange land being at my own school."

PUC is already partnered with the Army ROTC and would only need to provide the Army with classroom and office space and access to both basic technology and the Total Fitness Center.

Basic technology includes an over-head projector, a television and a VCR. They would access

the fitness center only for physical training.

Maj. Aubin Jack, head of the Army ROTC at IUN, noted, "We adjust more easily than other instructors."

"The hard part is over with," he added.

In addition, the Army provides universities with instructors and pays their salaries. The program is funded by a military grant.

Mistri said he estimates that PUC offered military science

"If there is enough interest and students involved we could at least look into it"

Jal J. Mistri
Assistant vice chancellor

courses in 1993. "It wasn't a full-fledged program; we only offered

courses."

Fewer than 10 students participated in the program. Tuition remained the same for students taking the military science courses. However, the Army does help finance students' education if they meet certain requirements. Scholarship opportunities are available to full-time ROTC college students under the age of 27 by their senior year, who score at least 19 on the ACT and 960 on the SAT.

The program at PUC was cancelled because the Army needed more students to participate.

The Army ROTC was launched at IUN in fall 2001. In the past, students would have to take their training courses at



Some of the Army ROTC cadets prepare to cross the one-rope bridge.

Chicago State University or University of Illinois-Chicago. The Army ROTC at IUN currently is comprised of 16 students.

"I have a sincere interest in having the same kind of program

at Purdue Calumet. If I was afforded the opportunity at Purdue Calumet, I would definitely take it," Jack said.

UIC heads the entire program for Northwest Indiana and the Chicagoland region. Other universities partnered with UIC are: Chicago State University; DePaul University; Governor's State University; Illinois Institute of Technology; Loyola University; Northeastern Illinois University; Northwestern University; Roosevelt University; St. Xavier University; Triton College; and University of Chicago.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Measuring your quality of learning

What makes for a good college or university? What is (are) the best way(s) to determine that?

Rankings in news magazines attract their fair share of attention. But those rankings tend to be based on such characteristics as what students were like when they started college—that is, their entrance exam scores or high school class rank—faculty-student ratios, alumni giving, library holdings, computer terminals and how many students graduate over a certain period of time.

Most important to student learning

While this type of information is useful to some extent, it doesn't address much about what is most important to student learning: whether an institution's programs and practices are having the desired effect on students' activities, experiences and outcomes. To get to the heart of those issues, Purdue Calumet is participating with some 365 other colleges and universities in the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE).

Through our participation with the NSSE, randomly selected first-year and senior students will be invited during the next couple of weeks to share their views by completing a short survey—It will take less than 15 minutes to complete—called The College Student Report 2002.

Questions from this report will ask students, among other things, how much time they spend studying and working on assignments out of class; the nature and quality of their interactions with faculty members and peers; the relationship of coursework to various mental activities; how Purdue Calumet has contributed to knowledge, skills and personal development; and does the university provide a supportive environment for students?

What is being asked is directly related to desired outcomes of one's college experience. For that reason, the survey is like an anonymous suggestion box. The results will get the attention of people who can make changes for the better.

Pointed questions...direct feedback

"In my opinion, the NSSE survey is going to become one of the most respected methods for measuring the quality of learning experiences provided by a university," Purdue Calumet Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Sandra Singer said. "I say that because rather than simply asking students to rate their educational experience, as good, average or bad, this survey asks pointed questions about matters such as: Do your classes challenge you to do your best work? and To what extent are faculty helping you grow intellectually?"

"This survey asks the type of serious questions that provide universities direct feedback for implementing program improvements."

The NSSE survey was designed by experts to be a versatile research-based tool. Research strongly suggests that good educational practices in the classroom and interactions with faculty and peers have a direct relationship to high-quality student outcomes—the essence of the Purdue Calumet strategic plan.

This is the second year Purdue Calumet has participated in the survey. Last year's initial experience provided some interesting findings, according to Dr. Singer.

"While freshmen indicated they were being intellectually challenged in their classes, seniors surveyed felt they needed to be challenged more," she said. "We're trying to validate those findings with this year's survey."

What's goin' on?

A look around campus

Walt Disney World Program recruiting interns

Walt Disney World will visit Purdue University West Lafayette to recruit students to work during their 100 Years of Magic Celebration. The Walt Disney World College Program provides students with an insider's look and real-world experience with the leader in the hospitality and entertainment industry. Students are invited to attend a presentation and meet with a Walt Disney World Program recruiter March 4 at 6 p.m. in West Lafayette. For more information, call (800)722-2930 or visit www.wdwcollegeprogram.com.

Players needed for co-ed volleyball teams

Two co-ed volleyball teams are forming. Games will be played Thursday nights. The first game will be March 7 at 7 p.m. in the PER Building. All players must be members of the Total Fitness Center. For more information and sign-up sheets, call Bill or Tim at (708)257-1891. Rosters have to be in by March 5.

Players for intramural basketball teams needed

Students interested in participating in intramural basketball must be members of the Total Fitness Center. Entry forms are due by Feb. 27. All games will be played on Sundays, beginning March 3. For more information, call (219)989-2175.

Dinner and technical meeting to be held

The Calumet chapter of ASM International and the Department of Engineering will sponsor a dinner and technical meeting Thursday, March 7 in the SFLC Building. Barry Kostyk, Market Development Manager for the 3M Engineered Adhesive Division, will speak. Reservations must be received by Monday, March 4 at noon. Call Bobbie Spires at (219)922-2877 to make a reservation. The dinner starts at 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$20. The techni-

cal meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. There is no charge for attending the meeting.

Free career and personal counseling available

Free career and personal counseling is available through the Practicum Counseling Center. Appointments are available for Wednesday evenings. For more information, contact Jane Stangel at 989-2366.

Gamer's Guild seeks players

The PUC Gamer's Guild is an organization for students interested in tabletop role-playing games such as Dungeons & Dragons, Shadowrun and Vampire: The Masquerade. Games run once a week per individual game, several games per week. Monday and Tuesday games are played currently, and new games are forming. To join or for more information, e-mail President will at lordwill@angelfire.com.

Society of Human Resource Management sets meeting dates

SHRM has set dates for bimonthly meetings to be held in the Anderson building, room 311. All meetings will begin at 5:15 p.m. Dates for the meetings are scheduled for March 5, March 19, April 2, April 16 and April 30.

International marketing seminar series offered

"Fundamentals of International Marketing," a free seminar series to be offered at 5:30 p.m., five consecutive Tuesdays, begins March 26 at PUC. The series is designed so participants can meet, exchange experiences and learn from specialists in international marketing, business and trade. The series will be held in Room 305 of Lawshe Hall.

The Chronicle wants you

The Chronicle seeks dedicated and reliable students to fill positions for photographer, page designer, copy editor, page editor, news, sports and entertainment. If interested, call 989-2547 and ask for Lorrell.

Say what?

"To know all is not to forgive all. It is to despise everybody"

-Quentin Crisp
1908-

The Chronicle

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Majors fair to be held

A PUC "majors fair" in which university faculty members, staff and alumni discuss majors and career paths with current and prospective students is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday, March 5 in the SFLC Building.

University academic departments being represented are: Behavioral Sciences; Biological Sciences; Chemistry and Physics; Communication and Creative Arts; Construction Technology; Electrical Engineering Technology; Engineering; English and Philosophy; Foreign Languages

and Literatures; History and Political Science; Information Systems and Computer Programming; Manufacturing Engineering Technologies and Supervision; Mathematics, Computer Science and Statistics; as well as the Schools of Management, Nursing and Education.

Additionally, the Offices of Admission and Financial Aid, Center for Career and Leadership Development, Counseling Center, Advising Center, Graduate School and Student Support Services will be represented.

The fair is sponsored by University Division and the Office of Academic Affairs.

The Purdue Alumni Association-Calumet will give away T-shirts in a free raffle for students.

The Student Faculty Library Center is accessible one-third mile north of Interstate 80/94, three blocks east of Indianapolis Boulevard (U.S. 41) and north of 173rd Street.

Other information may be obtained by contacting Purdue Calumet Academic Counselor Cathi Kadow at 219/989-2416.

Russian and Italian movies to air at PUC

A Russian movie, "Prisoner of the Mountain," will be shown at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 5, and an Italian movie, "Il Postino," will be shown at 7 p.m., Wednesday, March 6 at PUC.

The films, part of the university's Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures Spring International Film Series, will be shown in Room 110 of the Classroom Office Building.

Both films have English subtitles. "Prisoner of the Mountains," a 1997 movie directed by Sergei Bodrov, is based on a short story, "Prisoner of the Caucasus," written by Leo Tolstoy 150 years ago.

"Prisoner of the Mountains" demonstrates that over time little has changed in the conflict between the Muslim tribes of the Caucasian mountains and their imperialistic neighbors to the north. Set in the 1990s, the story centers on two Russian regulars taken prisoner by Muslim rebels and their decidedly unexceptional experiences among their captors.

In keeping with the anti-romantic tone of the Tolstoy text, Bodrov takes aim at the exotic notions, daring heroics, and plot twists that are stereotypical of many such war stories. Instead, the film's focus lies on the intractable everyday realities that divide these two warring cultures.

Steve Lombardo, from the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, will lead a discussion after the film.

In "Il Postino," Massimo Troisi stars as a humble postman in a small but beautiful Italian village. His life is transformed by the simple powers of poetry. Pablo Neruda, a poet living in exile on the island, gives this bumbling mailman the right words to seduce the woman of his dreams.

Troisi died abruptly after completing this role, turning this touching and deeply felt film into a highly apt but wholly unexpected memorial to his skills as a comic actor.

A 1995 film directed by Michael Radford, it is based on the novel, "Burning Patience," by Antonia Skarmenta. The film also

features Maria Grazia Cucinotta and Philippe Noiret.

John Fiore, from the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, will lead a discussion after the film.

The films are not rated. Viewer discretion is advised because some scenes may be inappropriate for children.

Other information can be obtained by contacting PUC's International Media Center at 219/989-2331. The toll free number throughout northwest Indiana and the nearby Illinois Chicagoland area is 800/HI-PUR-DUE, ext. 2331.

The PUC Police Report



Monday, February 18, 1 p.m.

A suspect used the computer of a staff member without the member's knowledge or permission between Feb. 15 and Feb. 18.

Wednesday, February 20, 9:40 a.m.

A vehicle attempting to turn at a stop sign struck another vehicle causing minor damage.

Friday, February 22, 11:10 a.m.

A vehicle attempting to back out of a parking space struck another vehicle causing minor damage.

Saturday, February 23, 11:40 a.m.

A person's nose started to bleed after a hard sneeze. Treatment was given at the scene.

Debate heats on sex, violence

"Sex and Violence in the Media: A Proposal" is the topic of a joint PUC/Indiana University Northwest Philosophy Colloquium to be held at 7 p.m., Monday, March 4 at PUC.

The colloquium will be held in

Room 321 of the SFLC Building.

PUC Associate Professor of Philosophy Eugene Schlossberger is the presenter.

Other information can be obtained by contacting the Department of English and Philosophy at 219/989-2645.

Place a classified or advertise with the Chronicle and see customers.
989-2547

Breast-feeding classes offered

Community Hospital is offering breast-feeding classes from 6:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m., March 14 and 19 in the physical therapy department on the ground level. Community Hospital is located at 901 MacArthur Blvd., Munster.

Taught by a board-certified lactation consultant, this class will provide education and support for women who want to breastfeed.

There is no charge for this program, but registration is required. To register, call 219/836-4504.

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Spring 2002

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All-nighters harm the body and mind

As midterms approach and information gets squeezed in before spring break, some students may resort to legal stimulants to stay up studying late at night or write last minute papers before spring break. Balancing study time, a full or part-time job and involvement with other activities, can be one of the most challenging tasks a student faces.

Coffee, tea, soda and pills purchased at a store are all forms of legal stimulants that students rely on to stretch the day out. Some stimulants are more serious than others, but they all affect the body by giving it a burst of energy it would not have experienced naturally.

Most students consume caffeine daily. It can be a cup of coffee in the morning or a bottle of cola with lunch. Caffeine pills such as No-Doz and Vivrin can be purchased at drug stores, convenience stores and grocery stores. All of these products are taken to wake up, and to a certain extent, they work. However, caffeine can be addictive. The adverse effects of caffeine withdrawal can include shaking, headaches and an inability to concentrate. If taken for a long period of time, the body will not feel normal without a daily dose of caffeine, and it will need a much larger dose to stay up all night studying or writing. As the student becomes more dependent on the stimulating effects of caffeine, the body will require larger doses while the mind grows increasingly fatigued, unable to concentrate or retain information. When too much caffeine is taken, the body can become agitated, nervous and shaky; the mind will be unable to focus and comprehend, much less retain information. Thus, a time-pressed student's original reason for using caffeine is undermined by the adverse effects of taking too much of it in one night or over time.

Other legal stimulants such as herbal remedies and ephedrine can cause the body and mind more agitation and inability to concentrate than caffeine.

After midterms are taken and papers are written, the body may be challenged as it attempts to return to normal. Students who had resorted to taking legal stimulants to stay up at night may continue to use stimulants for the rest of the semester to get through daytime classes or work.

A cup of coffee or two a day is not a bad way to wake up. Millions of Americans drink coffee, tea or soda every day. There would be no such thing as Starbucks if Americans did not like coffee, however, moderation is the key. Using large amounts of any stimulant to stay up all night is not healthy and harms the body.

When all-nighters are coupled with stimulants, the body and mind experience stress that can be avoided by practicing better time management. Realize that the body needs sleep. The mind will not effectively remember information crammed for a midterm if it has not slept. Try to maximize time spent on campus by studying while there and take clear and thorough notes. Avoid going out with friends one night a week and use the money to take a few more hours off work, if possible. Consider what time of day certain tasks can be done, when others cannot and when all work is due; then begin prioritizing. Use a weekly planner.

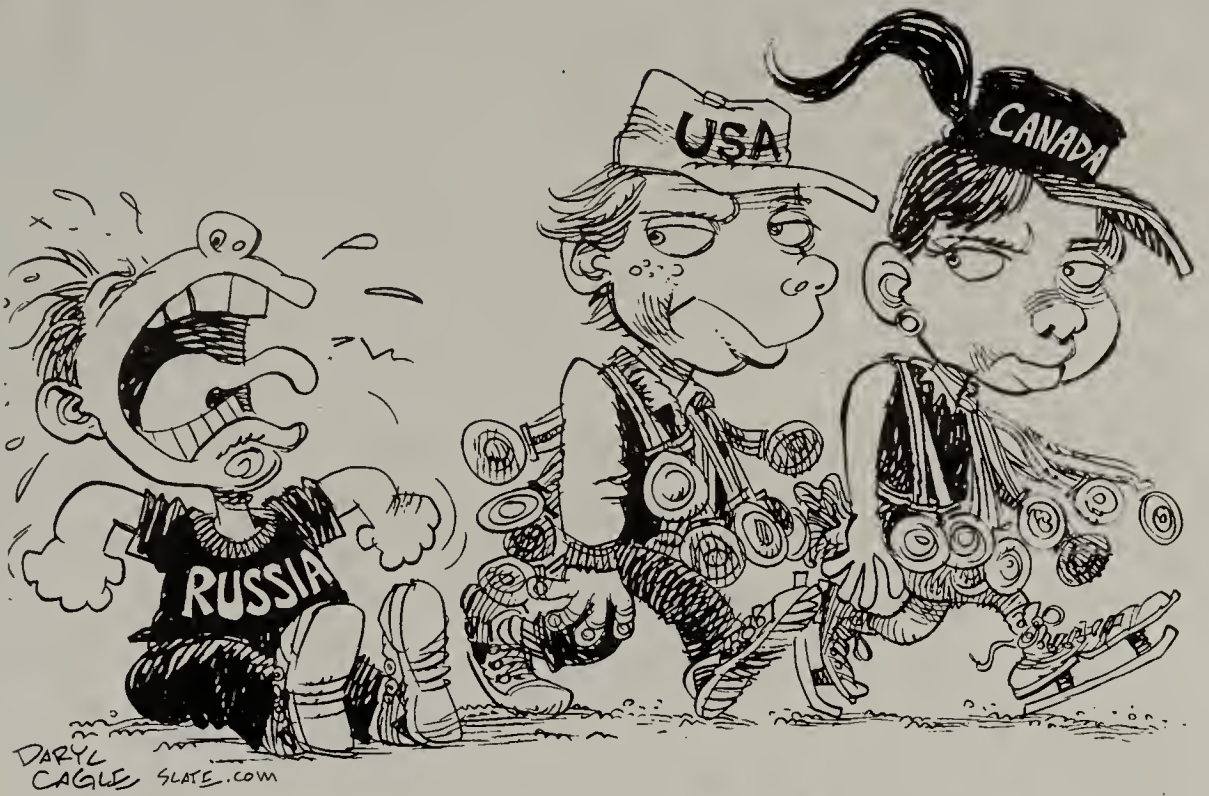
Eating healthy can rejuvenate the body and give it the extra energy to get through a dry daytime class. Drinking plenty of water throughout the day rather than soda and coffee can hydrate the body and clear out toxins so the mind can think clearly. Another way to open the mind is to exercise. Even if it's just walking up the stairs rather than taking the elevator, exercise can naturally give the body the energy that a cup of coffee or bottle of soda could only mimic.

The Chronicle Editorial Policy

The views expressed in the commentaries and Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Chronicle* or Purdue University Calumet. *The Chronicle* is not an official publication of Purdue University Calumet.

The Chronicle welcomes reader input. Letters and commentaries must include the author's name, class standing or other affiliation and a telephone number for verification.

All materials submitted to *The Chronicle* become the property of *The Chronicle*. All material must be saved on a 3.5" DOS format disk. *The Chronicle* reserves the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, space and news style. Copy deadline is noon the Monday before publication.



Night exercise requires precautionary measures



DEBORAH RACE
Production Manager

As a working college student, trying to fit exercise into my schedule is about as painstaking as reading academic journals for my English class. Very often, I find that the only time I have to go for a run or visit the gym is either very early in the morning, or late at night. At either time however, I have to proceed with great caution or be at risk of being a victim.

Before the sun rises, generally I would think that the creeps would be as leep, but that's exactly the point; victims are less likely to expect being attacked. Also, if the body isn't quite awake yet, then it won't be as quick to fight back or be alert to danger in the first place.

After the sun sets, the same rules apply, only people are more alert at night when they have been taught to be cautious. At night there are more people out as well. There are many precautions a person can take to keep themselves from being victimized.

The first and foremost rule is that there is safety in numbers. When I run at night I have my sister or my fiancée come with me. When I go to the gym if someone can't work out with me, I go at a time when I know there will be a lot of people working out already there, or I call ahead to see if there is gym personal that can walk me to my car.

The next important thing is not to work yourself exhausted. Overworking your body is not very healthy in the first place, let alone leaving yourself defenseless against an attacker.

Keep yourself armed. Carry pepper spray or mace with you in an easily accessible place, so that it can buy you time to get away. Do not carry an illegal weapon, and if you carry a legal weapon, don't bother carrying it unless you are prepared to use it or your attacker can use it against you.

Keep yourself aware of your surroundings. If I go for a run, I stick to main, well-lit streets that I know police patrol often. If you live in a bad neighborhood, drive to a good one, or wait to exercise outside until you can practice in a safe area. Also, make sure that you are familiar with the area so that if an attacker approaches then a quick escape can be made.

Be aware of attackers. People forget that animals can be as much of a risk to them as humans can. One night out on a run, I thought I heard the rattle of a dog chain, and when I turned around a large dog was running with me! It is important to not panic or make any quick movements unless the animal charges to attack. If the animal charges at you find something near you to defend yourself.

Exercise is healthy for your body and mind if you learn to practice it with safety and precaution.

The People Speak

Question of the Week:

Who is your favorite PUC Professor?



Matthew Stasik

Junior, Computer Programming

"Jeff Schieb. If there was a problem he would sit down with you until you understood it."



Ted LaDeRiva

Junior, Political Science

"All professors at Purdue Calumet are extremely accessible and willing to help, therefore I can not name a favorite."



Tony Los

Junior, EET

"P.D. Gupta and Pete Turbuk. They make the class interesting."



Veronica Santana

Sophomore, Nursing

"Kristen Wisniewski, Communication 114. She was nice because she made you feel comfortable when you were speaking."



Lupe Ramirez

Graduate, Sociology

"Professor Kathleen Tobin, History. She is my mentor for McNair Summer Research 2002."



Terri Wilson

Sophomore, Physical Therapy

"Jean Trammell, Psychology. She is personable and makes the class exciting."

Awards

Continued from page 1

have been nominated feel it is an honor.

Goodnight, who is an alumnus, said, "I'm honored. It means a lot to be nominated. Teaching itself is a reward, but it's nice to be recognized publicly for what I do every day."

Lucas said, "I am just honored to be nominated."

He said he felt his nomination is unique because he is also an alumni.

Hopp said, "I am honored, thrilled, pleased and humbled. It is nice to be recognized." Alan

Spector was reluctant but pleased.

"There are a lot of good teachers here. The students can make a professor a better teacher...the professor and students can learn from each other."

Former Outstanding Teacher Award winner and Assistant Professor of Management, Denise Woods, said she was amazed by the recognition from her students.

"I was delighted and humbled to see the numbers of letters and e-mails sent to the committee on my behalf. I try to bring my experiences into the classroom and the students appreciated that."

ROTC

Continued from page 1

In the water survival training, with his Army gear on, Martin is blindfolded and then pushed off a 14-foot diving board with a rifle over his head.

"This teaches confidence," Martin said.

Androff explained that in the classroom, "we learn problem-solving and how to apply it to a military situation." The program "is not for everyone." "It is like someone who is majoring in math; not too many people can do that."

While he is in the Army, Martin said he would like to continue his education until he attains a doctoral degree in world history. He hopes to retire from the Army in his early 40s and become a college professor.

Androff said, "I am definitely going to stay until I become a first lieutenant or captain; I'll

probably retire after that."

Aaron Grey, 20, a freshman with an undecided major, after numerous attempts, was unable to be reached for comment. A family member was contacted, but she declined to make any comment concerning his background or experience in the Army ROTC.

Grey, along with Martin, is also involved in a mentoring program serving Gary high schools that have Army ROTC.

Jack said Grey "is showing he has a sincere interest in the program. He's been doing it the longest."

"He's a little quiet. But one of my expectations is to be able to make him a little more assertive."

Martin said the purpose of the mentorship program is "to provide influence and instruction in military customs and traditions to Jr. ROTC cadets."



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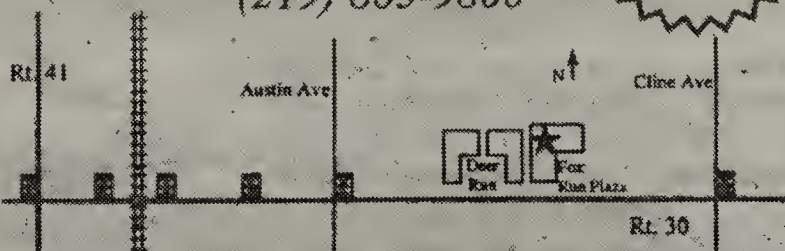
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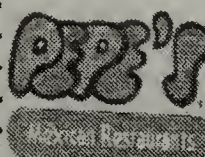
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Damn this movie to hell

TERRENCE ISBELL
Entertainment Writer

Why, Aaliyah? Why must your memory be reduced to an extended cameo in a horror movie that isn't all that frightening? This was the first question I asked myself after seeing, "Queen of the Damned." If you're familiar with the work of Anne Rice, or if you've seen the film "Interview with the Vampire," I must warn you now. The latest incarnation is nowhere near as deep and intriguing as those. The advertising for "Queen of the Damned" pretty much parades the image of Aaliyah as the selling point of the movie. But sadly for her, as well as the movie going public, even that isn't enough to bolster it to mediocrity.

The movie centers on the undead hero of Rice's novels;

Lestat, played this time around by actor Stuart Townsend. In a narrative, he explains that the world was a little too overbearing for a creature of the night such as himself, so he sealed himself in his crypt for a couple centuries. Flash forward to current day, as he becomes awakened by the sounds of a Goth band, that Lestat starts to enjoy and decides to make a career of it and in return he becomes a well-known name to everyone around him.

However, his celebrity status hasn't gone unnoticed by those that are assumed dead. Akasha (Aaliyah), the proclaimed mother of all vampires learns of Lestat, and takes an immediate liking to him, which results in a vampire to vampire relationship, which Lestat sees no downside to. But when Akasha plans to show world domination, Lestat begins to see the error of his

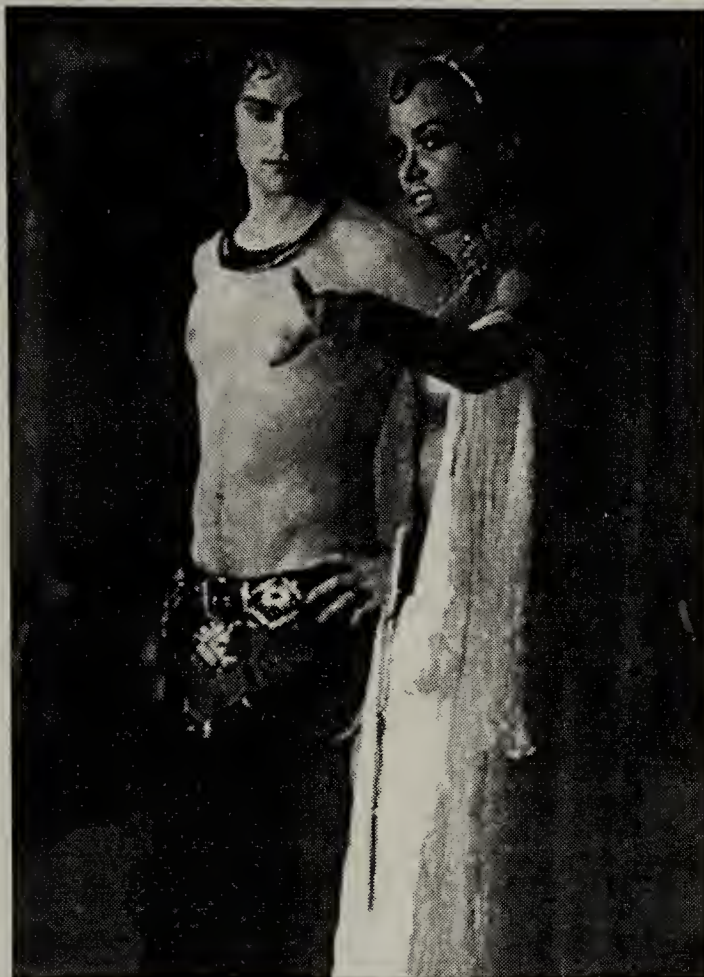
ways and makes it his duty to save the world from this one-woman force.

In the world of Anne Rice, vampires are basically a whole other race that co-exists with the living. They do suck blood and basically have the "you leave us alone, we'll leave you alone" mentality. When other vampires hear of Akasha's plan to take over the planet, they band together, along with Lestat, to put an end to it.

I admit that the plot sounds interesting enough, but it's as though the creators of the movie didn't even feel like taking a cue from the earlier "Interview" movie. Since this one is more or less a sequel, I felt that they should have mentioned some events from the earlier movie and novel, but they start the movie like nothing ever happened to Lestat before now.

The acting jobs...well,

they're okay. That's all I can really say about that. Aaliyah is supposed to have top billing in this thing, but she never comes onscreen until like 40 minutes into the movie. Even then all she does is talk about her world conquest plans, and lie draped over Lestat for no apparent reason. The only time she gets to do anything special is during the last battle, when she takes on her vampire min-



Aaliyah and Stuart Townsend star in Anne Rice's "Queen of the Damned."

ions by turning them to ash just by pointing at them. Stuart Townsend does all right as Lestat, but not as good as Tom Cruise. He does a good job of acting conflicted toward Akasha and his vamp friends well enough, though.

"Queen of the Damned" was merely an average movie for me. When you go see horror movies, you know what to expect. Anne Rice's books are

not meant to be horror stories...they're about creatures that live in the world that people just happen to be freaked out by. If the people that made "Queen of the Damned" realized that, it would have been way better.

"Queen of the Damned"

★★ 1/2



Michael Rymer brings Anne Rice's work to life in "Queen of the Damned."

Morissette trades anger for enlightenment

AMY L. AURELIO
Production Designer

They say in order to do something right, you have to do it yourself. Alanis Morissette apparently tries to back up this credo with her fourth domestic release, "Under Rug Swept." Morissette abandons her partnership with producer Glen Ballard and forges ahead with a record of her broken relationships and search for nirvana. However, this time out isn't as polished or introspective as her last record, "Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie." But you gotta

hand it to her. The girl is doin' it for herself, and the results aren't bad.

The title refers to the idea of sweeping her past under the rug, as in the first single "Hands Clean" in which she calls it on a sleazy former mentor from her Debbie Gibson days early in her career: "What part of history's reinvented and under rug swept/ What part of your memory is selective and tends to forget/ what's with this distance it seems so obvious." Evoking the similar feelings from 1995's "Jagged Little Pill" such as "You Oughta Know" and "Right Through You," Morissette tastes the sweetness of revenge on he who took advantage of her. The rest of the record boasts some incredible melodies and crunchy power chords that Little Miss Riot Grrrl has become known

for. But unlike her past work in "Pill" and "Junkie," Morissette's mood in "Under Rug Swept" shows her calmer side.

Songs like "Narcissus" gives Morissette a chance to vent at a pain-in-the-ass guy who only thinks of himself instead of her and refuses to see things differently. Her sarcasm "I know you've had your butt licked by your mother," and exasperation "why do I try to change you when you really don't want me to?" made me laugh out loud, because God knows we've all had the experience of parenting a significant other or two, right? On the other side of the coin, "That Particular Time" lets Morissette answer her own questions over ending a past relationship for all the right reasons. "Flinch," recalls the anguish we feel when we try to get over someone, and we just can't forget. One of the strongest tracks on the disc is "So Unsexy" in which she admits that she feels like hell even when she's told that she looks like Heaven.

"Under Rug Swept" is a healthy attempt at Morissette's independence as an artist and a freethinking woman. Here she unabashedly defends her own right to exist as she wants ("Utopia") as

well as that of the male of the species ("A Man"). She seems to want to save the world with song, but first she wants to save herself. So far, redemption looks near. Unlike her past portrayals as the angry woman who would lash out at a former lover who does wrong to her. In "Under Rug Swept," she

proves to herself that she can be a new more focused singer/songwriter.

Alanis Morissette
"Under Rug Swept"

★★★★ 1/2



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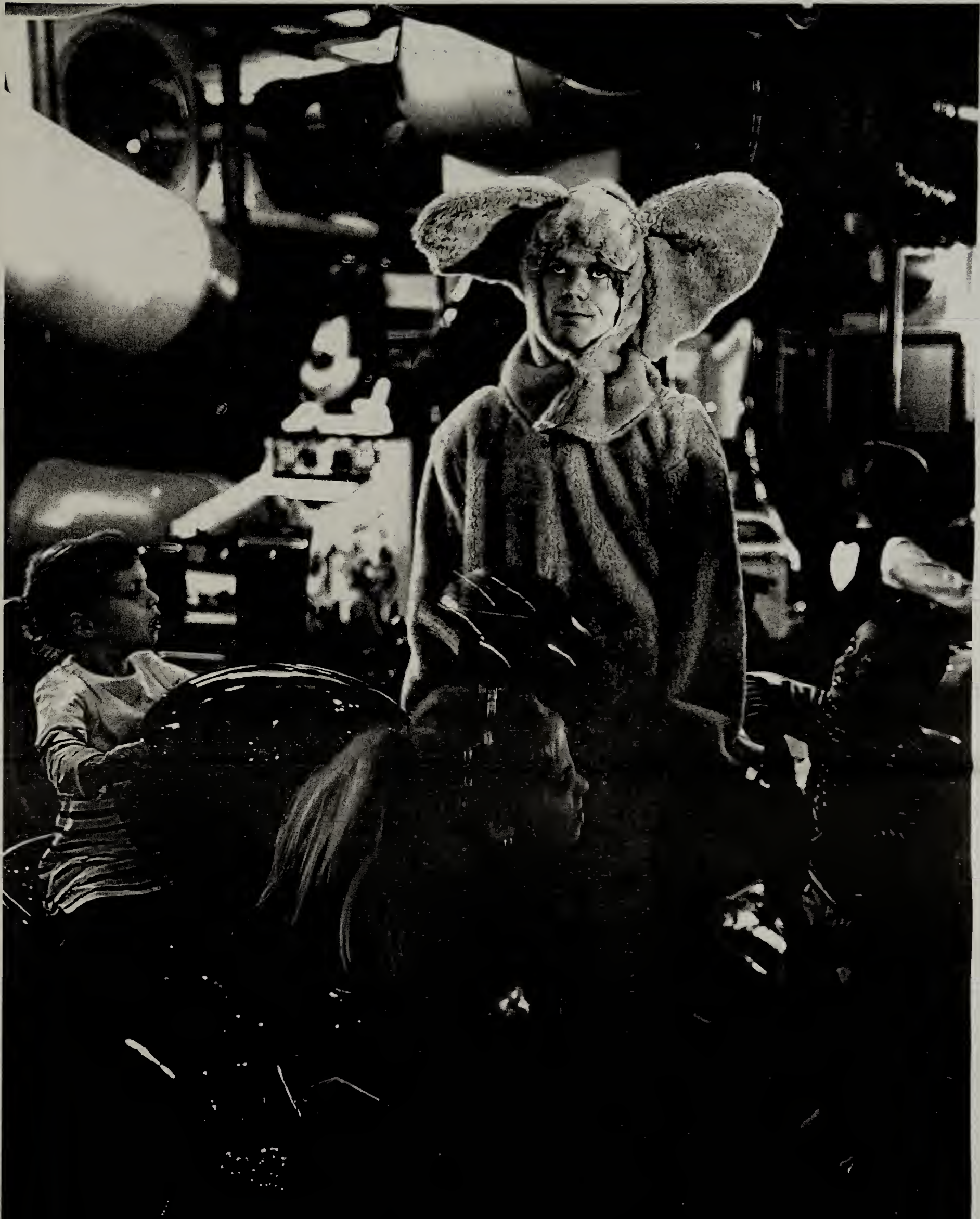
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THE SPRANKLE CONFINES

Olympics end on high note



FRANK SPRANKLE
Sports Editor

The 19th Winter Olympic Games have come to a close, and it's time to make some sense of what took place in and around Salt Lake City. From the vantage point of many, these games were at it's best.

To put the games in complete perspective would take quite a bit of time to understand for those who did not witness. After all, these Olympics had its share of memories, and on a downside, a little controversy.

As for medals, Germany came on top with 35 total, as the U.S. came-up one shy of that mark, but had some crowning achievements in 10 gold medals, including Apolo Anton Ohno, coming on top in the men's 1500m short track speed skating with a time of 2:18.541. The young speed skater from Seattle pulled ahead of Korea's Dong-Sung Kim who had been disqualified on the final lap as he held the lead, but made an illegal shift into Anton Ohno's lane.

From that point, the Korean's threat to pull out of the Olympics as well as Russian athletes, who believed that the judges favored North American competitors. In the end, both nation's stayed.

But before which, the U.S. was treated to one of it's high points in Olympic history, when 16-year old Sarah Hughes from Manhasset, New York took the gold in the ladies figure skating, after moving from fourth place to first. A surprise to even herself, she was able to capture everyone's attention with her triple jumps on the ice, that would secure her a top spot. In the end, fellow American competitor Michelle Kwan finished with the Bronze medal, after capturing silver at the 1998 games in Nagano, Japan.

And to give the hockey a title, one might say it was the "coolest game on earth at its best," with the NHL's best making-up the core of most team's. But aside from the standard games, the Olympic hockey featured a larger ice surface, one commercial for some play stoppages, and even more outstanding, good sportsman like conduct, in other words, no fighting.

Both the men's and women's Canadians took the gold by defeating both U.S. teams. For the men, it had been fifty years since climbing to the top in a sport that's considered their national pastime.

These Olympic games came to a close on good terms, for they were held at a time when needed, and a location as well, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA.

GARY GONZALEZ
Web Designer

The eighth annual Times Braggin' Rights Wrestling Classic was held at PUC Sunday, February 24. Here, stand out high school senior wrestlers from the Times circulation areas in Illinois and Indiana were invited to square off against each other in a dual meet competition. The classic began on a disappointing note, however, as the Mount Carmel Illinois contingent, including two state champions, didn't show. The Indiana squad featured three state champions and a highly anticipated battle of 125-pound state champions, East Chicago Central's Hector Mendez versus Casio Perro from Mount Carmel, never materialized.

On the strength of its middle and heavier weights, team Indiana surged to a 32-20 victory, its sixth overall. Forfeit points awarded to Indiana for two of Mount Carmel's no-shows proved to be a difference.

Thornridge 160-pounder Ben Rawls arrived as a spectator and surprised everyone when his offer to replace Mount Carmel's Dan Brown was accepted. Rawls went on victorious over Kankakee Valley's John Polomchak.

Thornridge teammates Terrence Horn and Lamar Mc Clinton encouraged Rawls to volunteer.

"We told Ben that if (Mount Carmel's) Brown didn't show he should try to get the spot. We were happy he was able to get on the team and get a nice win for us," Horn said.

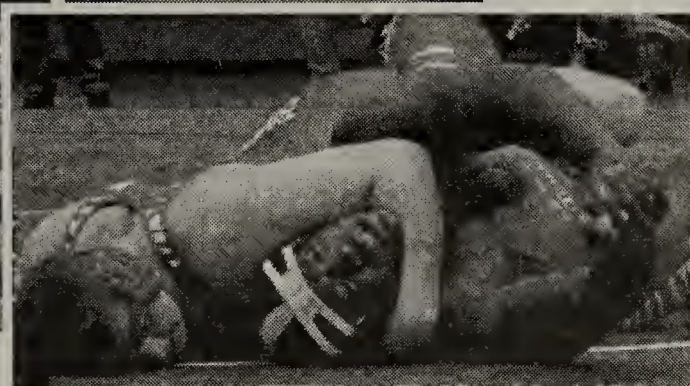
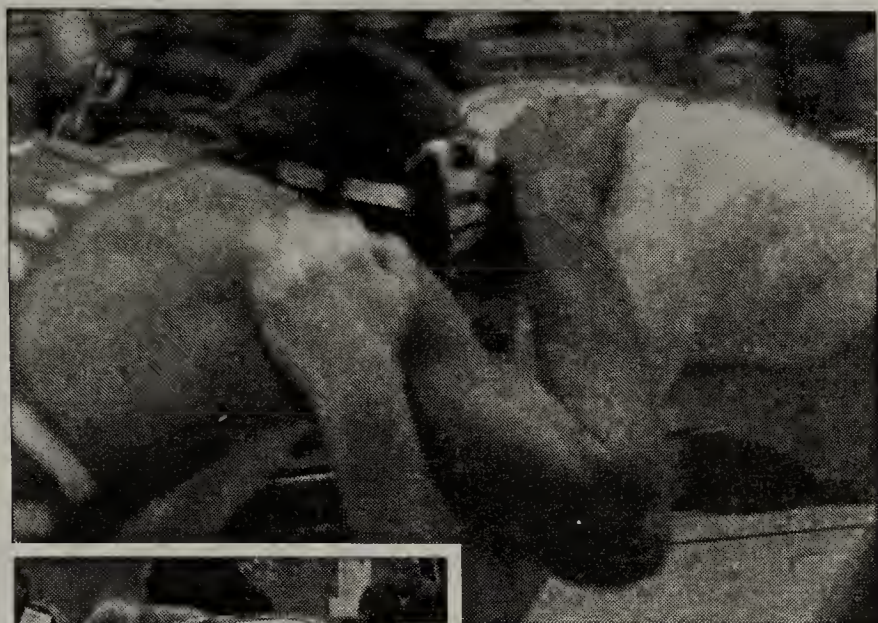
In matches featuring two Indiana state champions, 135-pound champ Jason Cook from Valparaiso, scored a lightning 47 second fall over Homewood-Flossmoor's Andy Fallucca, while Lake Central's 152-pound champ Michael Escobedo posted an 11-0 victory over Bloom Township's Willie Diaz. For his efforts, Cook was named this year's Braggin' Rights "Outstanding Wrestler".

Former Hammond High wrestling coach Karl Deak, currently on staff with PUC's Total Fitness Center, was the official meet scorekeeper.

"The classic always provides for interesting match-ups. The kids get a chance to wrestle someone they haven't seen before and against a different style. Illinois wrestlers use more power in their moves, while the Indiana style focuses more on leg attacks. Indiana may hold the edge in meet victories, but in all fairness the Times circulation area is larger in Indiana than Illinois. If the Mount Carmel kids had been here, things may have ended up differently this year," Deak said, who coached Hammond to state titles twice and also had six individual state champions in a career that spanned thirty years, ending with his retirement in 1990.

When asked about the no-shows, Deak also expressed disappointment and said he would select alternates along with first team members and make it the withdrawing wrestler's coach's responsibility to notify the alternate.

Deak was happy to see the Times sponsor the Classic again and feels that PUC is the ideal place to hold the meet due to its easy interstate access, central location,



(T o p)
Thornwood's Landon Foy and Portage 119-pounder David Persin.
(M i d d l e)
Portage 215-pounder Scott Buhman and Thornwood's Myron Smith.
(R i g h t)
Heavyweight Nick Paolilli (Homewood-Flossmoor) and E.C. Central's Bryan Truttling.

Photos by David Thompson

and neutral site. He recalls when PUC had a wrestling club and feels a university wrestling program would be quite feasible because of the wrestling talent in the area.

"I've talked to people about this before and I believe a Purdue Cal wrestling team would be more competitive than the basketball team," Deak said.

PUC Athletic Assistant Harvey

Finch is thrilled that the university continues to host the event.

"One of Chancellor (Howard) Cohen's goals is to build a positive and diverse relationship with the community," Finch said.

Holding the Classic is one way of meeting the Chancellor's objectives, according to Finch, since the

event's gate receipts only allow PUC to break even. Finch also agrees that PUC is the perfect location for the meet.

"We'd like to continue developing strong community ties and as long as the Times keeps sponsoring the Classic, I'd like for us to keep hosting it," Finch said.

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